REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

PRESIDING: Mayor Wilson

PRESENT: Temple, Morenz, Cox, Donnalley, Hiner, Smith & Beech
ABSENT:

The regular meeting on September 22, 2026 was called to order at 6:30 with Mayor Wilson presiding.

Mayor Wilson opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

Mayor Wilson pointed out a spelling error of repaving to be corrected before signed.

Temple made the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting 9/8/26
Morenz 2nd — All Ayes
Motion Passed

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Hiner made the motion to approve the bills in the amount of $11,788.52
Temple 2nd — All Ayes
Motion Passed

Hiner made the motion to approve payroll for PPE 9/12/26 in the amount of $80,189.01
Donnalley 2nd — All Ayes
Motion Passed

Mayor Wilson took a minute to thank all the Village departments who assisted with the Johnny Appleseed Festival over the weekend. Even with the bad weather, the festival was nice, Mayor Wilson said.

GUEST (S):

Maureen Waybright, Columbiana County Mental Health, was present to ask approval to place Suicide Awareness Signs in the squares and parks. The squares are owned by the County and with these being a permanent sign it was suggested she ask the Commissioners also. The signs and post will be provided the Village would only need to install, she had a 9x12 metal sign with her to show council, also passing out a sheet with the available materials. There was discussion about any existing poles the village owns that may have space with the ticket boxes and possibly the information box in the square. Signs will be placed in Cedar St Park and Willow Grove for the Ohio 988 Awareness.

Tracie Dixon was present to speak on her trashy comment from the September 8th meeting, she had pictures that were passed around council and given back to her. All pictures were of buildings in the historical district, including the building across the street from Village Hall that had not been repaired since the fire several years ago. In her opinion she feels the residents of the village deserve an apology from the mayor regarding his statement on the village is trashy. She believes that over 90% of the residents keep their property nice. Mrs. Dixon also spoke on the cross walk at E Lincoln Way and Pritchard Ave, saying that just the other day a 2nd grader was almost hit by a car when crossing. The traffic does not slow down; she would like to see more police presence there during the school zone times. Mayor Wilson said he has contacted ODOT regarding the new signage but has not heard anything. The last item she spoke on was the proposed skatepark at the old Center Twp garage at the end of Jefferson St, when the dog park was proposed this location was not good enough for the dog park why would it be good for a park for kids. She feels the Cedar Park location is the best option.

OLD BUSINESS:

RE: OIL AND GAS LEASES UPDATE

Kerry Hutchin DPS Land Services was present at the meeting to discuss the possibility of an oil and gas lease for all Village owned properties. Ms. Hutchin explained that DPS Land Service is with Valedor Energy. Valedor Energy is comprised of former employees of Encino Energy after being sold. She has sent Council man Morenz some information and has spoken with him regarding approximately 56 parcels, some of which at this time may need a more detailed search. If a lease is approved a detailed search would be completed by DPS before a lease is presented and signed. The 56 parcels equates to approximately 50 acres according to Ms. Hutchin. The lease type is a non-service lease and a 5 yr + 5yr option, a no-service lease means no drilling pad is located on the parcel. Ms. Hutchin said she could provide a map with the parcels outlined when asked, she will be sending that information. When asked where the drilling pad would be located, she could not specifically say just that the village parcels are part of the core, and the actual pad would most likely be 2 miles away. Council man Cox questioned if these same types of leases are able to be offered to any resident; Ms. Hutchin said they are. Sr. Plant Water Operator Chris Peterson said he has heard back from the EPA, and they would want to review any lease prior to being accepted or signed by the Village with water source concerns. Jen Riser spoke from the audience asking about fracking, and if a land owner's water well became tainted. Ms. Hutchin stated this is all covered in the lease.

RE: STREET COMMITTEE REPORT

Council woman Donnalley reported the Street Committee met where Street Supervisor Oliver presented a wish list and potential projects for 2027 and 2028. The 2012 Chevy truck that is used as a backup plow truck he would like to order a replacement plow, the current plow he says he is unable to purchase replacement cutting edges. In the absence of Mr. Oliver at this council meeting Council man Cox questioned the not being able to purchase replacement cutting edges, Council man Morenz said he understood it to be the bottom blade on the plow is worn to the point new cutting edges cannot be put on. Mr. Oliver has two quotes one from A&A Hydraulic in Brook Park costing $9,823.29, this plow is not compatible and would need a new mounting bracket. Myers has a plow that is compatible costing $10,350.00. Mr. Oliver would like to purchase this in December to have it in January if approved. The committee discussed a drainage project on W Washington St that would also include Maple St since there is a water issue on this street also. The project would have a combination of inlet curb outlets on W Washington with a pipe that would run to Maple St where catch basins would be installed. Council man Cox asked that a map be drawn detailing the project, council agreed this would be good before making any decisions. The other projects were possible chip and seal projects W Chestnut St and Cedar St or W Chestnut St from Beaver St to Thomas Rd. Mayor Wilson said he spoke to the Deputy County Engineer who told him the village would be eligible again in 2028 for up to $130,000.00 in what used to be called Issue II money in addition to a Small Government Grant where the maximum eligible is a half million dollars. These funding sources per the Mayor could be used for the drainage project. Council man Cox asked Mr. Peterson want he thought the economic advantage was with boring under the road compared to digging, Mr. Peterson said the boring is a better option. The contract for the line extension project has done the majority of the project boring instead of digging.

RE: REPAVAING OF SR 164 UPDATE

The first layer of blacktop was put down prior to the festival along the W Washington St portion of SR 164, S Market St to Chestnut St than Jerome St to intersection of SR 517. When weather permits the contractor will be back to continue working on the project.

RE: SWIMMING POOL UPDATE

The deep ground sonar is scheduled for Saturday September 26th at 10:00 am. Playtown will be closed on Friday and Saturday to place fire house in the park, Playtown will reopen after the sonar is completed. Mayor Wilson said OMEGA may have a pool engineer who can do a cost estimate for the pool, this estimate is needed for the grant

application due the beginning of November. Council man Morenz questioned if the village should advertise for an engineer at this point, it was decided at this time that is not needed. Mayor Wilson is not sure of the cost for the engineer OMEGA will be recommending but he will check.

RE: CROSSWALKS UPDATE

The applications for the cross walk at Thomas and W Lincoln Way plus the cross walk at Maple St and S Lincoln Ave have been submitted to ODOT according to the Mayor. He also asked about the signage for the cross walk at E Lincoln Way and Pritchard Ave, they have not told him anything yet.

RE: CHAMBER PLAQUE TO VILLAGE UPDATE

The plaque the Village was awarded by the Chamber for the September Business of the month on Sunday at the Johnny Appleseed Festival which was in the council chambers.

RE: PREFERRED TRASH HAULER UPDATE

Mayor Wilson stated he is not looking for a single trash hauler but instead a preferred trash hauler. He explained how Hudson OH set up their program when moving to the preferred trash hauler. The village would need to do an RFP then a contract would be executed with the low bidder. The RFP would outline what services the village wanted provided could include lawn clipping pick up, one large item a week, curb side recycling, and the village cleanup being included in the contract and that trash is only picked up one day a week. The cost would be locked in for the length of the contract and renegotiated upon renewal. Village residents would have the option to opt out just as the electric aggregate. Council man Cox questioned if the residents who wanted to opt out would have to complete any paperwork, the mayor said no they just did not sign up. Mr. Cox asked what percentage of residents would need to participate, the mayor said there was not a set percentage. Council woman Donnalley asked how the preferred hauler alleviates the issue of truck traffic on village streets the reason the single hauler was first brought up. She does not feel this will remedy the issue. Council President Hiner questioned that Hudson was able to set so many parameters because they are so big, they have a 60/40 ratio. Hudson also has over double the number of households compared to the Village. Mayor Wilson said the remaining trash haulers in the village would have to register, pay a fee, and agree to pick up trash only one day a week in the village on the same day as the preferred hauler alleviating the trash cans being out all week. Council man Smith questioned how you could get the others to agree to one day only. When asked by the mayor if council was interested in having a representative of Hudson attend a meeting to explain and move forward with a preferred hauler all of Council members Morenz, Cox, Donnalley and Hiner all said no with Council women Temple saying yes. Mayor Wilson said this issue would be dropped since council is not interested.

RE: ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Council woman Donnalley reported that Toole Design will be in town for 2 nights beginning Wednesday. The plan is to be at both schools to assess arrival drop off and dismissal pick up. There is an open house scheduled in Village hall on Wednesday evening 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm than Thursday night they will be at the schools during parent teacher conference. These events will be similar to the pop up event on the square during the walking tour.

NEW BUSINESS

RE: REQUEST TINA CUTRIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY – PICTURES ON SQUARE CHRISTMAS PARADE

Tina Cutright was present to request approval to place signs in the squares the week prior to the Christmas parade and have the pictures with Santa again this year, this will be the 5th or 6th year she has done these.

Cox made the motion to allow Tina Cutright to have the Pictures with Santa event and place signs in the squares the week prior to the Christmas parade.

Donnalley 2nd — All Ayes
Motion Passed

RE: ORDINANCE NO. 2273-2026 – AMENDED 2026 ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS (WATER & SEWER) AS AN EMERGENCY

Hiner made the motion to suspend the rules and regulations to pass an ordinance.
Donnalley 2nd — All Ayes with a roll call vote
Motion Passed

Hiner made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 2273-2026 , amended 2026 annual appropriations as an emergency
Temple 2nd — All Ayes
Motion Passed

RE: ZONING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Council woman Donnalley reported the zoning committee met prior to the council meeting this evening to discuss food truck fees on the schedule of fees for zoning. The committee all agreed that the fee of $500.00 for the year is high, but a fee is needed. On the recommendation of the committee Donnalley made the following motion.

Donnalley made the motion to remove the single day fee and six month fee from the schedule of fees and set the fee for an annual certificate at $50.00
Temple 2nd — All Ayes
Motion Passed

These fees do not apply to food trucks at the Columbiana County Fair or any festival in town. Zoning Inspector Barkle who was present at the meeting said he will update the current schedule then send a new schedule.

RE: COLUMBIANA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS

The Columbiana County Commissioners have offered $50,000.00 in American Rescue Plan funds to the village to use to purchase supplies for the swimming pool, these funds cannot be used for the pool repair project. The funds also need to be spent before December 31, 2026. The parks committee scheduled a meeting for Monday September 28th at 5:30 to comprise a list of supplies to be purchased. Council President Hiner asked that a list of supplies for Playtown also be comprised at this meeting if the committee agrees. She has been approached by someone who wishes to remain anonymous at this time who would like to donate to clean up and repair Playtown. The committee agreed to discuss this also at their meeting.

Morenz made the motion to approve Mayor Wilson complete the flexible opportunity grant application for the County Commissioners based on the list approved at the parks committee recommendation
Hiner 2nd — All Ayes
Motion Passed

RE: NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL ASSOCIATION ROUTE THROUGH TOWN

A map of the current North Country Trail Association route was presented to council during the meeting. The map detailed the current route which uses SR 30 (Lincoln Way) to S. Lincoln Ave to the trail head, the map also presented a requested route change through town. The association would like to use SR 30 (Lincoln Way) to S Market St to Maple St to S Lincoln Ave. Council had no issues with the route change as presented.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

The following financial statements were distributed to council in their packets: the August month end fund summary and bank reconciliation and the most current month end fund summary. All vouchers were presented to the council prior to the meeting for signatures. Ms. Wonner reported after sending the broker a census of employees they feel could save the village money on different plan options, she would like council's approval to move forward in obtaining more information and quotes. She also reported the Village was offered an early renewal by Anthem BC/BS at 5% increase, the original was 12% the broker was able to get it down to 5% with a onetime $2,500.00 premium credit. It was confirmed if this early renewal is accepted by the deadline the village is not locked into renewing on January 1st if other options are better and if the village wanted to drop the current plans this can be done with no penalty even after January 1st.

Temple made the motion to move forward with the health insurance renewal with BBG and to authorize the early renewal with Anthem BC/BS as presented with the 5% renewal and $2,500.00 onetime premium credit.
Hiner 2nd — All Ayes
Motion Passed

Ms. Wonner also reported the September transfer for the 5% August income tax collections totaled $7,431.31.

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

Street department quadrant reports were submitted to council in their packets. There was some discussion regarding items on the quadrant reports, one mentioned a tree in the park that needs to be taken down and there are several alleys that need to be repaired. Mayor Wilson reported he thought the Parks District removed the tree but will confirm. The alleys from all the rain do need work, the department will work on those.

FIRE REPORT

Chief Hall thanked everyone who attended the annual pancake breakfast on Saturday morning of the Johnny Appleseed Festival in addition he thanked the Eagles who donated the first 100 breakfast and the Ruritans who provide the apple pancake batter. The department did have a few calls over the weekend.

BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT

BPA member Barb Bailey reported the board discussed the NE Pressure/SR 45 line extension alternate bid project. Council had authorized $75,000.00 to the BPA for sand filter rehabilitation with American Rescue Plan funds, this project is not able to be completed by December 31st this year, the board would like approval to transfer these funds from this project to the line extension project. If council approves the board could withdraw the loan application and pay for the project in house instead.

Donnalley made the motion to authorize the transfer of the $75,000.00 from the sand filter project to line extension project as requested
Temple 2nd — All Ayes
Motion Passed

Sr Plant Operator Chris Peterson reported the current portion of the project along Adams Rd is complete including testing which went well, the line is in use. The board approved a $2,100.00 change order to reconnect the Lisbon Baptist Temple Church. The contractor while milling for the SR 164 project hit 2 man hole covers and will be repairing those when they resume work. The department is completing the hydrant flushing and flow testing. The flow testing is being done so there can be some adjustments made from what parts of town receive water from the tower and reservoir.

ZONING

The most recent approved zoning applications were submitted to council in their packets. Residents on E High St were present to inquire if anything can be done regarding the condition of 321 E High St, this home has been vacant for years with current owner living out of state. The village has mowed the yard in the past, currently the owner has a company who mows not regularly nor around all the debris in the yard. The residents claim there are also varmints coming from the house. Zoning Inspector Barkley said he will inspect and send a letter to the owner. He also mentioned if the home is in bad enough condition remedies may be able to be expediated with the health department or fire department.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mayor Wilson reminded everyone of the Active Transportation Plan tomorrow from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm in Village hall.

With nothing further to come before the council, Mayor Wilson adjourned September 22, 2026, council meeting at 7:43 pm.

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Mayor Peter Wilson

ATTEST:

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Tracey Wonner, Fiscal Officer